

THE DEMOCRATIC DEFENSE.

THE VIEWS OF AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL ON THE SOUTH CAROLINA CASE.

That one story is good until another is told, and not much longer, is illustrated to some extent in the matter of the South Carolina election. Upon a very flimsy foundation of fact, erected by partisan correspondents, Mr. Blaine built up his wholesale charges of the disfranchisement of the negroes by fraud and the consequent capture of two or three Congressional Districts by the South Carolina Democrats. The whole thing had a shaky appearance, by reason of the discreditable character of the few witnesses whose names were given by the correspondents sent down South "to write up" the outrages for partisan journals. We have wondered that so little has been elicited from the other side—the accused party—in reference to matters of such grave import. Through the enterprise of the New York Herald this default exists no longer. That journal printed recently four columns of reports from Democratic sources, covering the whole ground pretty fully if not in due detail. That these, too, are partisan pictures of the election goes without saying, but they have the merit of being accompanied by responsible names, and they are worth notice as a part of the record of the Democratic case now under consideration by the Teller committee.

The alleged Charleston frauds are considered by Mr. O'Connor, the Democratic Representative elect from that District. He makes very clear that, so far from abridging the rights of the negro voter by their rearrangement of the polls, the Democrats in fact facilitated the work of voting for all and greatly diminished the opportunity for fraud. The important fact is pointed out that Mackey, his Republican opponent, was in fact defeated without the aid of Charleston against which Mackey's charges lie.

From Rainey's district, from which Richardson was returned elected, the reports are more conclusive and satisfactory. The Republican Circuit Judge in a very dispassionate letter concedes the fair defeat of the candidate of his party, gives good reasons why he and many other Republicans worked and voted against him, and bears testimony to the fact that there was an honest election, a fair count and no violence. This witness lives in Marlboro County, but evidence to the same effect is published from the Circuit Judge resident in Sumter (the only county in which violence is said to have occurred,) and from Horry, Georgetown and Marion. It seems that Rainey did not even make a canvass of these counties, failed to send tickets to others, and it was generally understood among the colored people that he had taken his family to Connecticut and expected to make that State his future home.

From Smalls' district no report is made. Perhaps one is yet to come, for further explanation of the large Democratic majority is needed, notwithstanding the notorious bad character of the Republican candidates.

The true character of this defence is scarcely given with sufficient clearness in this summary. A great deal lies in the specifications of Republican disaffection and the causes thereof. When the colored people had such cause for deserting their party the presumption that Democratic triumph was secured by intimidation and fraud, is, to say the least, violent and unnecessary. Giving them credit for even less than average intelligence, it must be supposed that Wade Hampton's fair and economical administration of the State government must have shown them that Democratic rule was not the terrible thing that, under the teaching of the carpet-baggers, their fancy had painted. From the day of Appomattox until now the negro was never so protected from violence as under that administration. His vanity was never so fed by political association with his former owner. The difference between the last tax under Chamberlain and the last tax under Hampton was ten mills on the dollar, making a total reduction in taxation of \$35,000 for the county of Sumter alone, and so on over the State. The poor negro no longer had to pay for the fast horses, Brussels carpets, diamond breast pins and gilded spoons of their Columbia task-masters out of the paltry proceeds of a little patch of

cotton in a woods clearing. Moreover, under the new regime, while equality and economy went hand in hand, education shed its beneficent influence over the State as never before. The average yearly school attendance under Republican administration for seven years was 37,429 white and 46,481 colored; under two years of Democratic administration it was 50,281 white and 59,036 colored, and the Democrats have been paying off a debt of \$185,000 to teachers, incurred by Republican perversion of school funds.

Such facts as these could be rehearsed by the column and no better reasons for a change of party allegiance could be asked. It is no wonder that the negro turned upon the party that had betrayed his touching confidence. The only wonder is that the Democrats found it necessary to commit a single fraud or to incur the slightest suspicion of fraud in order to swell the majority in favor of an administration like Wade Hampton's after eight years of Scott, Moses and Chamberlain.—Philadelphia Times.

A Bad Example Followed.

Without known precedent, and certainly contrary to both the letter and the spirit of the organic law, the Governor of Massachusetts, Hon. Alexander Hamilton Rice, dropped his ministerial character and took the responsibility of inquiring into the motives of Governor Hampton, of South Carolina, in uttering a requisition for one Kimpton, a fugitive from justice. This judicial inquiry was the first false step, and it had to be followed by others, of course. The motives were found to be political, and the requisition was dishonored, an act as disgraceful as it was illegal. In spirit it sought to establish a State right that Alexander Hamilton would have scorned to consider, and which the most advanced Democrat of this time never approved. After a time Kimpton saw what a bad blunder had been made, and he surrendered himself to the authorities of South Carolina, and had Governor Rice acknowledge his error no harm would have followed his decision in this case. But the precedent was set and the order was not revoked. Pretty soon Massachusetts sent for two criminals who had fled from the "Ba. State" to "Little Rhody," and, although Governor Vanzandt was willing to honor the requisitions of Governor Rice, he thought it best to inform that official that he questioned his motives and would first investigate them. Meanwhile the scoundrels escaped the clutches of the police and are still at large. Nor did the bad example rest here, for recently Governor Hartman sent requisitions to the Chief Magistrate of a Western State for some persons charged with high crimes and misdemeanors who had fled from the jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, and they are yet unnoticed or unanswered, because General Cullom, the Governor of Illinois, "questions the motives" of Governor Hartman, and will first inquire into the cases of the alleged criminals before he delivers them up to the watching and waiting "minions of the law from Pennsylvania." And there is no telling where this dangerous practice will stop unless some one brings the case before the Supreme Court of the United States for final settlement.—Philadelphia Enquirer.

A Romantic Murder Case.

The Supreme Court of the United States is engaged in hearing the case of Pryor N. Coleman, of Tennessee, which is one of the most remarkable on record. It seems that during the war he committed an atrocious murder, for which he was about to be executed by the Federal military, when the Confederates made an attack and stopped it. He asked and was granted leave to go into battle, and fought with such desperate gallantry that nothing more was said of taking his life. After the war a State Court found him guilty of murder in the first degree, and the Supreme Court of Tennessee refused to set aside the decision. His case is now before the United States Supreme Court, and ex-Senator Foote, who is his counsel, hopes that as this court has always been liberal in construing the law that man's life shall not be twice placed in jeopardy for the same offense, he will be able to get Coleman clear.

THE GRANGE.

DECLARATION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE NATIONAL GRANGE.

The following is the declaration of principles which were passed by the National Grange last week: We, the members of the National Grange, desiring to define the precise objects of the Order of Patrons of Husbandry, and place them before the membership of the order throughout the Union, do hereby set forth the following proposition with our distinct declaration of purpose relating thereto:

The industry upon which our order is based is agriculture—the most important of all industries—the foundation and support of all others—the true basis of all our national prosperity. We have observed the condition of our people and viewed with alarm the encroachments upon their natural rights. While agriculture is the chief source of all wealth and therefore deserving of at least equal recognition with other vocations, it is deprived of its just rewards and oppressed by methods of law. It is made to bear grievous burdens not its own, it is compelled to pay taxes which an equitable distribution would place elsewhere; it is forced by wicked combinations to hurtful discriminations against its products both in transportation and in the markets of sale; its votaries have been and are now denied that consideration in public affairs to which the magnitude and importance of their calling entitle them. The laws of the nation and of the several States are so framed as to divert from our industry the rewards which are the great incentives to toil, and an earnest remonstrance against their injustice spurred.

In view of these truths, we are bound, in defence of our manhood, to assert our rights, and we therefore declare our unalterable purpose to emancipate agriculture from the burdens unjustly heaped upon it, and the means by which we shall seek to secure the desirable ends.

1. We shall strive earnestly, within and without our order, to extend the benefits of education, which shall comprise knowledge of public affairs and methods of self-government.

2. We shall demand admission in the Legislatures of the several States, and in both houses of the National Congress, for representatives of agriculture chosen directly from its votaries, as the only means of relief.

3. We shall accord to other industries all the rights, privileges and immunities, which we claim for our own, and join with their representatives in earnest endeavors to impress upon the government of the States and nations habits of wise economy and frugality as essential to the thrift and prosperity of all the people.

4. We shall give constant care and attention to the public schools, which the youth of the nation are deeply interested in, limiting expenditures therefor only by their usefulness, striving always for that higher and practicable enlightenment which should become the distinguishing feature of a free people.

After the above had been adopted the following was also presented and passed:

In accordance with the above objects of our organization, and the methods by which they are to be obtained, we pledge our unyielding devotion to the work marked out. We believe the principles enunciated in our declaration are in full accord with the highest welfare of our country, and that they deserve support, especially by all farmers. The history of agriculture on this continent shows that no organization in its behalf has ever been attempted without direct effort on the part of those who prey upon its products to neutralize the work; and the lessons of the past establish the conviction that our only hope is in full and cordial co-operation of farmers wherever located, to insure success which is within their grasp.

We appeal, therefore, to good men and women, whose interests are our own, to join their efforts with ours, confident that, with their support we shall not wait long for the consummation of our hopes. We appeal to the agricultural journals of the land, asking their great influence in aid of the above object, as a potent means for the attainment of a great object. To these forces and to the intelli-

gence of our people we present the purposes which animate many thousands of farmers in every State of our Union, and reverently trust in the direction of the wise Providence by whose decree we were made tillers of the soil, that our efforts may be rewarded by the full accomplishment of the measures which justice demands in the relief an industry oppressed and the higher enlightenment of its votaries.

Denominational Progress in 1878.

The fever of revivalism which ran over the country after the great meetings opened in Brooklyn some years ago by Moody and Sankey has been dying cut year by year, until almost every trace of it disappeared the past year. The evangelists worked more quietly in New England towns last winter, though not fruitlessly, while for the present winter they have separated. The churches however, have not been idle, and the results of the year in the accession of new members are, perhaps, not surpassed by those of any of the previous four years. The Protestant Episcopal Church has been unusually prosperous, and has had such an increase as to reach and overrun by 12,000 the very respectable number of 300,000 communicants. Of the most populous denominations the Methodist Episcopal Church has had about the usual increase, and so with the Presbyterians and Baptists. The Lutherans, as a German community, have been adding rapidly to their numbers in the past few years. The highest estimate of their present strength is over 800,000. There is scarcely an exception among the various denominations, large and small, to the rule of increase of communicants. The efforts at paying off long standing and oppressive church debts have been continued, too, and many congregations have been freed from their burdens. Perhaps, however, there has been less of church building than in former years, but there are good reasons for regarding this as indicative of prudence and a healthful progress, and not of a decline of church enterprise. The disposition to build large and showy churches upon credit is, happily, passing away, but the erection of plain and cheap buildings in the far West and in neglected communities furnishes opportunity for a practical benevolence which several denominational societies are busy in dispensing.—New York Times.

Forfeited Lands.

The Act recently passed by the General Assembly, in relation to lands forfeited to the State for non payment of taxes, is one containing extremely liberal terms to those who have allowed their lands to become forfeited and who have not yet redeemed them.

It is more than likely that the opportunity allowed, under the act alluded to, will be the last chance defaulters will have to redeem, and those interested will do well to carefully consider the terms of said Act.

The second section postpones all sales of forfeited lands which have not yet been made until the first Monday in September, 1879, and allows the privilege of redemption to run until that time, in which period all defaulters are permitted to pay only one half of the simple tax of 1876, 1877 and 1878, without any costs or penalties, and on their doing so their lands are restored to them.

The third section of the Act provides that defaulters may redeem their lands until the 31st day of October, 1879, by the same terms, provided however only, in case they have not been sold between that period and the first Monday in September previous.

It would not be well for any, therefore, to risk further delay in redeeming them the last of August, as a sale after that time might be ordered and the lands sold to some persons who would not be as liberal to the defaulters as the State.

Section four provides that payment, on account of forfeited lands, shall be with National Bank notes, U. S. Treasury notes, gold or silver coin.

Section five provides that in all cases where taxes have been paid for the years 1876 and 1877 on lands forfeited for previous years, such payment shall be taken and held to have redeemed such lands.

MINORITY REPRESENTATION.

A BILL WHOSE EFFECT WILL BE TO BREAK UP THE "SOLID SOUTH" IN CONGRESS.

WASHINGTON, December 26.—A bill is in process of preparation having for its object minority representation in Congress, and will probably be introduced in the House soon after the reassemblage of Congress. It proposes to have the Legislature of each State, after the apportionment of the next census, to redistrict the State, that the minority may be entitled to representation. The plan proposed is an ingenious one, and if in force at the last election would have secured from the South over thirty Republican members, twenty of whom would have been colored men, while, on the other hand, the Democrats would have gained a corresponding number in the North. By this plan, if carried out at the next election, the Democrats will have a small majority, but all parts of the country alike will be represented by Republicans as well as Democrats. The plan is to so divide each State into districts that the districts may, as far as possible, be settled to elect either three or five members each, thus permitting the majority of voters to elect two out of three or three out of five. In case the district is entitled to three representatives each, the electors can vote for two candidates and no more. In case the district is entitled to five representatives each, the electors can vote for three candidates, and no more. Where the State is entitled to two representatives only, as in the case of Florida and Rhode Island, it is to be divided into two districts, each electing one member, as at present, as in this case a majority and minority representation would be impossible. In all cases where there is no odd representative, after the State has been divided as nearly as possible into districts to be represented by three or five members, a separate district is to be set apart for this representative, who is elected as at present. The effect of this bill will be to break up the solid South and secure to the colored people a representative in Congress. It is argued that if it were passed it would remove the objections raised by Senator Blaine to the present unequal representation of the colored people of the South. It is not expected that the bill will pass the present session of Congress, but it will be introduced to attract public attention and excite public discussion on the subject, preparatory to its reintroduction at the next Congress.

Against Duelling.

We learn that the persons from South Carolina who came over into North Carolina to fight a duel recently will be indicted by a Mecklenburg court. That is right, and Governor Vance should demand the rendition of the persons implicated. Let our courts put its seal of emphatic condemnation on the foolish duelling code. Mecklenburg authorities are expected to do their duty in regard to the affair mentioned, and maintain the dignity of our laws and respect due the State. If two or three negroes or white men get into a little tussling scrimmage, or "fist and skull" fight, the whole force of the State (in law) is brought against them, and the same should be done against the young gentlemen from South Carolina who came into this county and violated our laws.—Charlotte Democrat.

GOOD MANNERS AT HOME.—

Shut every door after you without slamming it. Never stamp, jump or run in the house. Never call to persons up stairs or in the next room; if you wish to speak to them go quietly to where they are. Always speak kindly and politely to the servants, if you would have them do the same to you. When told to do or not to do a thing by either parent, never ask why you should or should not do it. Tell of your own faults, but not of those of your brothers or sisters. Carefully clean the mud and snow from your boots or shoes before entering the house. Never sit down at the table or in the parlor with dirty hands or tumbled hair. Never interrupt any conversation, but wait patiently for your turn to speak. Never reserve your good manners for strangers, but be equally polite at home and abroad.

Important Order.

The following important order was issued from the Comptroller General's office yesterday. It will be mailed to the various County Auditors and Treasurers within the next week: To all County Auditors and Treasurers:

In pursuance of legislation upon the subject instruction has been heretofore given you to treat all tenders of bills Bank of the State and coupons for taxes as nullities, and to proceed to distrain or levy and sell in every case unless stopped by injunction of the courts in that particular case.

In cases of injunction report the fact to this office to the end that the Attorney General may be called upon to represent the State.

Since this instruction was given an act to facilitate collection of taxes have been passed, the third section of which provides, "That in all cases in which any person against whom any taxes stand charged upon the books of any County Treasurer of the State has heretofore tendered in payment of the same any funds, currency or bank bills other than such as the said Treasurer was authorized to receive by the act of the General Assembly levying said taxes, the said Treasurer shall receive from such person the said taxes without penalty in funds or moneys authorized to be received by the act of the General Assembly levying the same: Provided, That such taxes shall be so paid within sixty days from the passage of this act; and any person so paying in the same way do so under protest, and thereupon shall be entitled to all the benefits of the remedy provided in section 1 of this act."

You are instructed to construe the words "without penalty" in the section quoted to include all charges for costs or penalties proper. You will also postpone the delinquent sales of lands which have been tendered for sixty days from December 21, 1878, the date of the approval of the said act, giving due notice of the same; after which you will proceed to advertise and sell as first instructed.

JOHNSON HAGOOD, Comptroller General.

A Word of Warning.

What a virtue is candor! It is a rare endowment, and yet when possessed and practiced it makes a life beautiful indeed. Men sometimes talk sunshine to your face, and growl thunder behind your back. When you meet them you are led to believe, from their polite attentions, that they are true friends—that your interests, your reputation, your soul's peace and your joy, are all safe in their keeping. Be not too confident. Sometimes the smooth talker is a rough neighbor. Of course you have your faults, your infirmities; every one has. But you prefer that when these weaknesses are mentioned at all, it shall be to yourself, and only yourself, and not to another. You little dream, sometimes, how readily the least deflection from the line of a lettered regularity, your more playful concession, a half-said apology for a wrong you inwardly prayed for righting, has been caught up, repeated and torn into a grave moral delinquency. Beware of your confidences even among believers. The hawks are on the wing. Buzzards swoop the air of heaven.

A SMALL BOY ON CHRISTMAS.—

Ryder's boy has written the following composition on the subject of Christmas: "Christmas comes every year and it is the best day in the year exceptin' fourth of July which is a better day to fire off guns and pistols. Hookey fired off an old gun one fourth of July and it kicked him agin a hydrant and an awful bunch growed on his head and he didn't know much for two hours Christmas is the best time to get presents my sister Lucy hung up her stockin and I put a mud turtle in it and she was fearful mad you bet if my aunt Rachel should hang up her stockin it would hold a dump cart full of things William Bradshaw eat so much Candy and puddin one Christmas that his folks had to put him in a grave after he died I should like to see old Dudley the truent offser in a grave and so would all the boys I should like to have it Christmas and fourth of July all the time.

COD BLESS US EVERY ONE.

WADE HAMPTON'S FAREWELL TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

COLUMBIA Dec. 8th.—The following communication was received from Governor Hampton, and read in both Houses, and placed on the journals: To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives;

GENTLEMEN—I had hoped to be able to see and thank each of my friends of the General Assembly in person for the many acts of kindness of which I have been the constant recipient at their hands. Providence while denying me this great pleasure has vouchsafed to me the reasonable hope that I may in the future be able to do so. But on this, the eve of your adjournment, which will be the severance of my intimate official connection with you, I feel impelled to address to you a word of farewell.

Your flattering selection of me as Senator in the Congress of the United States is only one more mark of the confidence and esteem which I have so often experienced at your hands, and which has been a never ceasing comfort and support to me in my hour of success or of trouble. That I may be able in the future to merit it as fully as I have in the past received it, is my highest hope.

Asking that God, in His mercy, may bestow His choicest blessings on each and every one of you, I am sincerely and affectionately your friend and fellow citizen, WADE HAMPTON.

Five Thousand Dollars Found.

A treasure up a tree was seen in the watches of the night by a pedler, who was sleeping in a farm house in the Shenandoah Valley. He told his dream to the farmer the next morning, and on three successive nights he had the same vision. Then he prevailed on the farmer to accompany him to the forest, where he pointed out a large tree, the trunk of which

was found to be hollow, and about twenty feet up a limb had been broken off. The farmer did not feel like humoring what he supposed to be a superstitious whim, but the old fellow seemed to have confidence in his vision, and offered him one-half the spoils if he would help him cut down the tree. When the tree fell there was a rattle of coin near where the limb had been broken off, and a small hollow was found there. By a little chopping a larger cavity was found and within was a mass of silver.

Both seemed wild with delight, and on counting up found that the pile amounted to \$5,000. The pedler expressed his unwillingness to carry around so much silver in his pocket, and inquired where he would be likely to get gre.backs for his share. The farmer having considerable money in his house, immediately transferred to the pedler \$2,500 in paper and took charge of the entire lot of silver. The pedler disappeared and when his partner attempted to pass some of the silver, lo! it was counterfeit. He was the victim of a gang of coiners.—Lynchburg Virginian.

Full Mourning.

A Philadelphia clergyman, Rev. Mr. McLeod, contends that there is neither health, sense nor religion in full mourning. He tells his congregation that a bit of black ribbon, worn in some way, will tell the story of bereavement just as well as a complete mourning suit. A bit of crape on the bell-pull gives the hint to those who pass by, and it is not considered necessary to cover the whole front with black drapery. Why, then, will not a bit of ribbon on coat or cloak answer the purpose, and a weight of useless expense and a custom that is always gloomy and, in warm weather, very uncomfortable, be taken from the shoulders of bereaved mourners? Christians, he is convinced, ought not to take a gloomy view of death. There are glorious hopes linked with the sorrows, and the hopes of those who are gone before should be symbolized rather than the sorrows of those who are left behind. He would have cheerful garments worn by mourners in token of the triumph of the glorified ones, and a bit of ribbon or crape as a simple memorial of their own sense of bereavement. The rest of the full mourning he would send to the heathen, who in their sorrow at the grave have no hope.